**Documented Literary Analysis**

Why do you need to write a documented literary analysis? Researching increases your understanding of a topic and allows you to read what several sources say about it. Research papers will not end in high school; you will continue to use research skills throughout college and beyond. For this class, you will research your choice novel.

**Procedures**

**Step 1:** Decide on the specific thesis (due at the end of the block during the first library visit).

**Step 2:** Research your thesis statement by using at least six sources, which must be cited in the paper. Use a variety of note-taking strategies: summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting (Resource: owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2). You do not have to make source and note cards, but **you must have a system of note-taking that will ensure correct documentation and that will avoid plagiarism**. EasyBib.com is a great resource.

**Step 3:** Create a rough outline of how your paper will be organized. (Resource: owl.english.purdue.edu/owl - Go to General Writing – Writing Process – Developing an Outline)

**Step 4:** Write the paper using the guidelines at the MLA Overview and Workshop (owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/675/01). Remember the following:

* Introduction – include an attention grabber, background information, and thesis.
* Body – organize different elements of the paper in separate paragraphs, including summaries, paraphrases, and quotations from the research **as well as your own commentary**.
* Conclusion - end with revelations that you have drawn from your analysis and the research, making your position clear.
* Documentation/Works Cited – very important! See rules at Purdue OWL.

**Step 5:** Carefully revise your paper, considering composing, written expression, and mechanics.

**Step 6:**  For the final draft, follow the MLA guidelines at the MLA Overview and Workshop.

**Due Dates:** Thesis statement: 3/4 (B) and 3/5 (A)

Outline: 3/12 (B) and 3/13 (A)

Paper (and Research notes): 3/26 (B) and 3/27 (A) – The paper will receive a late grade if

it is not submitted on the due date. If you are absent, find a way to send it in.

**Assessment:** Outline

Paper (composing, written expression, mechanics)

Research (notes; summary, paraphrasing, quotations; documentation, Works Cited)